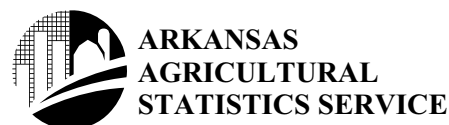


ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 2 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

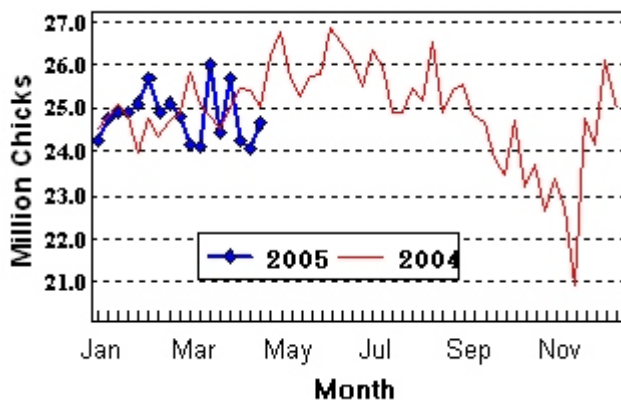
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 24.6 million during the week ending April 23, 2005. Placements were down 2 percent from the comparable week in 2004, but up 2 percent from the previous week, and included 3.4 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through April 23, 2005 were 421.9 million, down slightly from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 25.5 million, down 2 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.8 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.3 percent.

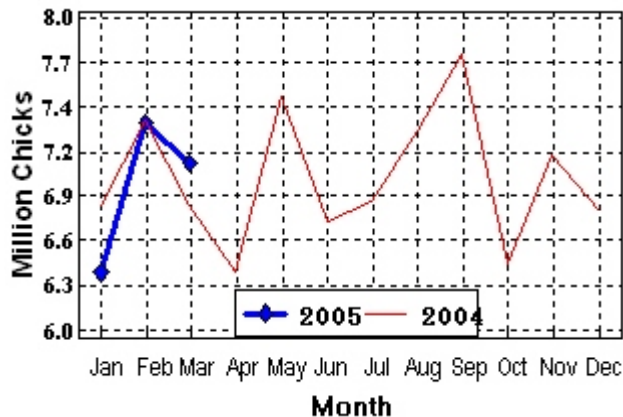
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 31.2 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending April 23, 2005, down 3 percent from the same period last year, but up 1 percent from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 7.1 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2005, up 4 percent from March 2004.

**ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS
BY WEEK, 2004- 2005**



**U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED
FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS**



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS

Week Ending	Year		% Change
	2004	2005	
	1,000		
Mar. 19	24,832	26,004	105
Mar. 26	24,532	24,483	100
Apr. 2	24,998	25,689	103
Apr. 9	25,450	24,245	95
Apr. 16	25,379	24,090	95
Apr. 23	25,051	24,641	98

U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED

Month	Year		% Change
	2003-2004	2004-2005	
	1,000		
Oct.	6,312	6,457	104
Nov.	6,946	7,128	103
Dec.	6,978	6,772	97
Jan.	6,811	6,409	94
Feb.	7,340	7,340	100
Mar.	6,815	7,077	104

BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2005

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	02-Apr	09-Apr	16-Apr	23-Apr		19-Mar	26-Mar	02-Apr	09-Apr	16-Apr	23-Apr	
Alabama	30,940 *	30,445	29,672	30,310	100	21,507	21,502	21,408	21,769	21,842	22,081	105
ARKANSAS	30,537	31,153	30,994	31,203	97	26,004	24,483	25,689 *	24,245	24,090	24,641	98
Delaware	3,943	4,031	3,902	4,044	106	5,964	5,408	4,962	6,033	5,788	5,557	110
Florida	1,356	1,353	1,344	1,354	99	1,483	1,545	1,560	1,699	1,488	1,504	101
Georgia	31,702	33,221	33,573	33,448	100	27,484	27,635	27,362	27,006	26,971 *	25,778	98
Kentucky	7,183	7,338	7,263	6,699	96	5,824	6,064	6,051	5,517	6,096 *	6,319	106
Louisiana	4,165	4,165	4,165	4,165	105	3,514	4,227	3,834	3,871	3,653	3,605	95
Maryland	8,566	9,010	8,884	8,981	101	4,785	5,529	5,763	5,207	4,988	5,212	89
Mississippi	19,539	18,866	18,524	18,886	98	17,492	17,543	17,641	17,940	17,960	17,764	102
N. Carolina	18,755 *	18,888	18,702	19,106	102	15,097	15,337	15,148	15,361	15,174	15,365	103
Oklahoma	6,289	6,465	6,507	6,649	99	5,214	5,127	5,164	5,362	5,075	4,425	78
Pennsylvania	4,048	4,173 *	4,148 *	4,092	106	2,858	3,115	3,106	3,047 *	2,975 *	3,014	111
S. Carolina	5,196	5,106	5,205	5,010	134	4,277	3,753	4,232	4,512	4,602 *	4,271	105
Texas	15,403	15,480	15,470	15,526	101	12,957	12,891	12,885	12,910	12,897	13,311	104
Virginia	6,678	6,601	6,515	6,602	101	5,523	5,442	5,320	5,364	5,676	5,353	102
CA,MO,TN,WV	18,228	18,735	18,771 *	17,959	100	16,252	17,239	16,543	16,909	17,870 *	17,087	104
Total 2005	212,528 *	215,030 *	213,639 *	214,034		176,235	176,840	176,668 *	176,752 *	177,145 *	175,287	
Total 2004	211,680	212,808	214,388	213,217		172,291	172,510	172,652	172,145	173,941	173,669	
%Prev. Year	100	101	100	100		102	103	102	103	102	101	
Approximate Marketing Date 2005.....						07-May	14-May	21-May	28-May	04-Jun	11-Jun	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP SLIGHTLY

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 214 million eggs during the week ending April 23, 2005. This was up slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 175 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 23, 2005. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through April 23, 2005 were 2.80 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.